

REVISED

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS27424 / S1312

The purpose of this legislation is to remove current restrictions on the potential establishment of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on laned roadways in Idaho. Currently, the ability to designate HOV lanes is restricted to counties with less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) in population, and in which a resort city authorized to approve certain non-property taxes, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 50-1004, also resides.

In general, the primary purpose of an HOV lane is to provide a tool that transportation planners can use to address traffic congestion where studies demonstrate an HOV lane would ease congestion better than other alternatives. Most traffic congestion is occurring in the state's most populous counties – those with substantially more than twenty-five thousand (25,000) in population. This bill would remove the section of Idaho code that restricts the designation of HOV lanes to counties with twenty-five thousand (25,000) people or less, and in which a resort city resides.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation will have no fiscal impact to the General Fund. There may be dedicated fund costs incurred by local transportation planning agencies and/or the Idaho Transportation Department for studies deemed appropriate to analyze the feasibility and impact of HOV lanes on certain corridors. Costs of construction of added lanes may also be incurred as provided in a long-range transportation plan and approved in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).